DEPENDENCE ON FRANCE

Explanation of the Black Hundreds and Their Methods.

COMMUNIST FACTORY IDEA

Imperial Government Now Straining Every Nerve to Draw the Peasants From the Terrorists.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

ST. PETERSBURG, December 1 .- A new scheme for a foreign loan is being pro-By this particular scheme a new series of Russian railway and other conceswestern capitalists. It is claimed that for the past fifteen years the government has been prosperous, while the country is being industrially impoverished. This paternalistic method of dealing with the people will, it is believed, sooner or later be abandoned, and valuable concessions to private capitalists will be granted, which will have the effect of putting the nation more on a par with the other nations of the world. One of the projects proposed is a series of railways, extending from north to south, in various sections of the empire. Heretofore most of the trunk lines have been easi and west lines, but it is thought that some valuable concessions running north and south will be snapped up by English and

American concessionists. There is not much doubt, in spite of the energetic protests of a section of the Russlan press, that M. Izvolsky, the Russian minister of foreign affairs, tried on the oc-casion of his recent visit to Paris to obtain the recall of M. Bompard, the French ambassador to the Russian court. M. Bompard's offense is that he will not look at Russian affairs from the same angle as the ezar's government, and his reports, in con-sequence, do not paint the reports in the color that M. Stolypin would like. France is said to be the chief hope of Russia for the much-talked-of loans, for America, after all, is regarded as too far away, and Germany and England have never been too friendly, and, besides, they have large-sized enterprises of their own which must be looked after. But it is also said that the people here do not want the credit of the country damaged any more, since things have reached a point where they are just about as bad as they can be. If, therefore, the French ambassador can be induced to take an optimistic view of the situation, it is argued, the chances of gaining the ear of the French people will be greatly in-

## Recollection of Strauss.

It is too early to say just what the final resultant of all of the intrigues now going on will be by M. Bompard's position, which s stronger than most people here in St. Petersburg think. He is a diplomatist by profession and not a rich man who has been given the post without any prelimitraining. He has worked his way up from the position of unpaid attache to the ambassador and has put in several years of the hardest kind of hard work in the ch foreign office itself. He, there has the influence of the French dipmatic service, clannish in the extreme, ehind him, and this has certainly no intention of allowing the tenure of foreign posts to depend upon the good will of the redited. Of coruse in the first in-the foreign government is always consulted, no minister or ambassador being appointed until the sovereign or ruler to rare that the nominee is ever rejected, but One of the most famous cases of this kind the United States ambassador to the Vi-enna court. Mr. Strauss was a born Austrian who had naturalized in America, and who in addition was a Jew. The American President finally withdrew the nomina-tion and Mr. Strauss was sent to Con-

ciation busy in Odessa, according to reports from that place, is the Soiouz Rousskavo Gharoda, better known as the Society of the Russian People, better known still as "The Black Hundreds," Ac-cording to the latest reports though things re quieting down in some parts of Russia. Dessa in many ways continues a hotbed of agitation and anarchy. The initial idea of the "Black Hundreds" was to repel and punish the ruffians who trafficked in terorism and in the guise of revolutionaries dilaged for personal gain. But it was not long before it was seen that the "Black Hundreds' were hooligans, also-if possible worse than the other hooligans-receiving general thing they have their meeting places in second-class restaurants. They always walk like loutish builies, and what

## What Sulphur Does

For the Human Body in Health and Disease.

COSTS NOTHING TO TRY. The mention of sulphur will recall to many of us

the early days when our mothers and grandmothers every spring and fall. It was the universal spring and fall "blood purifier," tonic and cure-all, and, mind you, this

old-fashioned remedy was not without merit. The idea was good, but the remedy was crude and unpalatable, and a large quantity had to be taken to get any effect. Nowadays we get all the beneficial effects of

sulphur in a palatable, concentrated form, so that a single grain is far more effective than a tablespoonful of the crude sulphur. In recent years research and experiment have

proven that the best sulphur for medicinal use is that obtained from Calcium (Calcium Sulphide) and sold in drug stores under the name of Stuart's Calcium Wafers. They are small chocolate-coated pellets and contain the active medicinal principle of sulphur in a highly concentrated, effective form. of sulphur in restoring and maintaining bodily vigor and health; sulphur acts directly on the liver and excretory organs and purifies and enriches the blood by the prompt elimination of

Our grandmothers knew this when they dosed us with sulphur and molasses every spring and fall, the other at Cordova, his native town, but the crudity and impurity of ordinary flowers "Machaquito," who is considered of sulphur were often worse than the disease, and cannot compare with the modern concentrated preparations of sulphur, of which Stuart's Calcium Wafers is undoubtedly the best and most widely

They are the natural antidote for liver and kidney troubles and cure constipation and purify the

blood in a way that often surprises patient and Dr. R. M. Wilkins, while experimenting with

from Calcium was superior to any other form. He says: "For liver, kidney and blood troubles, espe-cially when resulting from constipation or malaria, I have been surprised at the results obtained from Stuart's Calcium Wafers. In patients suffering buncles, I have repeatedly seen them dry up and disappear in four or five days, leaving the skin clear and smooth. Although Stuart's Calcium Wafers is a proprietary article and sold by druggists and for that reason tabooed by many physicians, yet I knew of nothing so safe and reliable

look like walking sticks in their possession are in reality painted bars of iron. Buying a Factory.

They are the men who can always be reed upon to remove a too industrious propagandist of the revolution. But their principal activities are directed to waylaying Jews and maltreating them. Only the other day a man and woman were surrounded. "You are Jews." was the cry.
"Yes, we are Jews." "Then we shall kill
you." The woman fell on her knees and
tearfully beseeched mercy. The men of the
"Black Hundred" conferred together for a few moments apart from their prisoners.
"We will give you your lives," said a young fellow at last, and the two were finally allowed to go. But just as they supposed they were free they were again captured, tortured and killed.

The grand idea among the workers in the

The grand idea among the workers in the factories is that the various factories in Russia must be run on the communistic basis. Quite recently a file works, in which a Sheffield firm was interested, had to close down because the demands of labor were such that there was no profit. The man who holds the power of attorney to sell was approached by the workmen who ofwas approached by the workmen who offered a ridiculous price for the plant. "But where will you get the money?" inquired the owner. "Oh," was the reply, "we shall certainly find it somewhere. I can tell you where we can get it," said one of the workmen. "We will get it from the Jews. For years they have been exploiting us and they have been exploiting you. You have alhave been exploiting you. You have al-ways been grumbling because your factory you said was really in the hands of the Jews. Now, what is the matter with our taking it away from the Jews?"
"That is true," replied the employer.

ssian railway and other conces-constitute the balt for catching thought of that—I confess I never At the present time negotiations for the sale of the plant are still progressing.

In a general way it is only fair to say that one of the things definitely rettled by the revolution, which is going on in Russia and has been going on in Russia for years, is that no government can exist for one

hour, which dares to ignore the fair de-mands of the peasants. It may sidetrack the fair demands of the peasants, but once let the farmers lose confidence in the czar and the last vestige of peace and power would be swept away. And the imperial government at the present time is doing everything in its power to draw the peas-ants away from the revolutionaries.

## TWO SORTS OF FISHING

SCOTCHMEN ANGLING FOR SAL-MON AND TREASURE.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

record results.

GLASGOW, December 1.-Heavy rains have fallen in Scotland during the past few days, and the flooded state of the rivers has greatly interferred with salmon fishing. The spate, however, has brought up an enormous quantity of fish, and sportsmen on the few rivers still open should obtain

season, the long drought experienced during the months of August and September being mainly responsible for the lack of sport. Between the floods capital creels have been got on some of the reaches of the River Tweed. On Sprouston Water, for instance, one of the best reaches on the whole river, almost a record catch has been gathered during the past month, and among the successful sportsmen were the Earl of Eglinton, Lord Montgomerie, Sir Redvers Buller and Capt. Trotter. On the Duke of

tion stone of the Students' Union. The need of developing university life on its social side is becoming everywhere recognized. Only a few weeks have elapsed since Edinburgh University opened an addition to lieve the constitutional movement to be a its Students' Union at a cost of over \$125,- reality, and recognize the work that it has 000, for which sum the undergraduate has obtained the run of a fully equipped club casion Mr. Haldane, who as lord rector of the university, took a leading part in the ceremony, bore testimony to the barrenness of university life as he knew it in the days before students' unions were thought of. In his time, he said, social life had to be sought P., makes a flerce attack on the report of in places where the contemplations were festive rather than academic. Mr. Balfour, though he said he could not speak from personal experience of a Scotch university, laid stress upon the value as an influence in

the molding of character of the social life. After the Galleon.

Once more the search for the Spanish treasure carried on this season for thirwhich the more sanguine among the members of the syndicate fondly hoped. During the first ten weeks quite an extensive portion of Tobormory bay was most thoroughly investigated with the Priestamn digger and boring apparatus and quite a plethora of relics recovered in course of the search. But during the last fortnight operations were almost exclusively con-fined to one spot where the salvers were told by a Yorkshire expert that they were daily nearing a mass of silver. The silver was not forthcoming, however. The result has therefore been most aggravating, but the members of the syndicate are not men to give up an enterprise because there are obstacles or because their labors have not been crowned with success. As to the depth at which the treasure galleon will be found there are differences of opinion. One expert puts it at twelve feet beneath the third at between twenty-five and thirty feet; but as to the process to be followed in finding the ship, almost all are agreed that the search must be carried out with the boring apparatus worked by handles from a platform over the sides of the diving lighter. Among the relics 1 covered during the last two days of the operations was a silver dessert plate eight inches in diameter and weighing over a pound. The silver of which it was composed was purer than in the two plates recovered at the beginning of September. There were also brought up two scabbards, from the leather of which the polish had not disappeared, while the wood inside, which kept the steel edge from the leather, was still preserved. A fine specimen of a sword and an are-quebus were among the finds on the last day of the fishing operations.

## ROMANCE OF A MATADOR. Spanish Popular Idol Married to an

American.

MADRID, December 1.-The matador "Machaquito," whose marriage to Miss Angelo Clementson, the daughter of a wealthy American, took place at Cartagena the other day, has distributed \$10,000 among the poor in that city. He has also announced that he will found two asylums for the aged poor-one at Cartagena and

"Machaguito," who is considered the finest matador in Spain, earns \$500,000 a year, which is twenty-five times the salary of the premier.

Three rooms in the Clementson mansion at Cartagena are filled with silver, plate. jewels, old lace and porcelain presented to the bride and groom by their many friends. The private chapel in which the sulphur remedies, soon found that the sulphur marriage took place was transformed into

a bower of roses and carnations,
"Machaquito" is described by the local
press as being "the most gallant man in
Europe," and his romantic courtship of
Miss Clementson has already furnished the

inspiration for at least two novels.
"Machaquito" first saw Miss Clementson at Lorca three years ago. A year later he proposed to her at Tombola, where he is reported to have given \$500 to a local charity in exchange for a single kiss. The con-sent of her parents to the match was obtained a few months ago at Feunterrabla, where "Machaquito" had a narrow escape

## NEWS ABOUT IRELAND

Form of the Next Home Rule Bill Discussed.

REDUCTION IN THE BOARDS

Comment on the United Irish League of America.

FATE OF EVICTED TENANTS

Criticism of the Agricultural and Technical Institute—Study of Gaelic Language.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

DUBLIN, December 1 .-- It is announced here on what is considered to be reliable authority that a conference recently took place in Dublin between Mr. Bryce and Sir Anthony MacDonnell and Mr. John Redmond and Mr. John Dillon, representing the government and the Irish party respectively, in reference to the form of next year's home rule measure.

Sir Anthony MacDonnell is said to have submitted a draft of the measure, and it is now stated that the essential features of the bill have been completely settled. The legislative union is to remain un-

ouched. An Irish council is to be created with a proportion of between two-thirds and threefourths of its members elected on the existing parliamentary franchise, the remainder to be elected on a restricted franchise or

nominated. tation in the imperial parliament. Clergymen of all denominations shall be eligible for membership in the council.

All the forty odd beards by which at present the work of administration is performed are to be replaced by four new mards

First-The central or castle board. Second-A department of education. Third-A department for agriculture. Fourth-A department for land transfer The police are to remain under imperial ontrol, but are to be reduced in numbers. The position of the judiciary also is to remain unaffected.

As to the financial arrangements, it is computed that after certain deductions The fishing closed on the Dee, Don and a number of other rivers after an indifferent perial and other purposes a balance of between \$20,000,000 and \$25,000,000 will remain at the disposal of the Irish council.

Constitutional Movement.

The Freeman's Journal has a jubilant leading article on the recent convention of the United Irish League of America. It declares that the convention has repudiated with emphasis the schism of Mr. William O'Brien, and it reproduces from the Irish World of New York the speeches of "Colonel" Blake, who fought against the Buller and Capt. Trotter. On the Duke of Roxburghe's Eloors Castle reaches Lady van Rossa and of John Finerty. Blake is reported to have said that while it did not require much of an army to whip the Roxburghe's Roxburghe's Eloors Castle reaches Lady van Rossa and of John Finerty. Blake is reported to have said that while it did not require much of an army to whip the British forces in South Africa, of O'Dono-Evelyn Ward and the Hon. G. Ward have been among the favored anglers, and nearly thirty fish were captured by the guests of the duke on a single day recently.

When Princess Louise opened the Queen Margaret College in St. Andrew's Hall the other afternoon she really laid the foundations. The need of the Stydents' Union The need of the Union The nee observations, the Freeman's Journal says: "The extremists who were extremists when was practical politics to be extreme are accomplished. Probably it would be found if new conditions arose, and the constitutional movement were unfortunately foiled, the constitutionalists of today would render more hostages to the new methods than Recipe for Novels

In a letter of four and one-half columns in the Freeman's Journal Mr. Dillon, M. reference to the reinstatement of evicted He says that the report will effect nothing, and that the real object of the conference is to dethrone the national ist party and to put Lord Dunraven and his friends in control of Irish politics. Mr. Dillon cannot understand how Mr. Harrington and Mr. T. W. Russell could have felt themselves free to take part in such an enterprise, and he declares that one of the chief incitements to the lords to maintain their present obstinate attitude has been the hope that through the exertions of Lord Dunraven and his colleagues further plunder would be forthcoming. The nationalist organ heartily indorses Mr. Dillon's attack and says it would be a misfriends were deluded into the notion that moment by moment is far better." any good could come from the wholly inence. It remains to be seen whether the nationalist leaders will now take such action against Mr. Harrington as would send him definitely into Mr. O'Brien's camp.

Revival of Gaelic. The committee which has been inquiring into the working of the Agricultural and Technical Institute has the evidence before it of the Rev. Father O'Reilly, P. P. of Kilcormack. He declared that the department was an un-Irish department and that it was largely staffed from abroad. He referred also to Six Herror. silt, another at twenty-five feet, and a that it was largely staffed from abroad. He referred also to Sir Horace Plunkett's notorious book, which he declared was one of the factors that militated against the department, and very nearly destroyed the department's work in the King's county. Father O'Reilly stated very frankly that "gentlemen who praised everything foreign and discounted everything homegrown were doing a great deal of harm to the British Museum. Her distinguished relthe country.

the country."

The establishment of the Leinster Teaching College now makes the proper educational equipment of Gaelic-loving Dublin a mere matter of time. The college will teach Irish. Even the national board has admitted that the introduction of Irish has awakened a new interest in the schools, made them more attractive, and led to better results in other studies as well. There is evidence, too, that the teaching of other modern languages is being re-formed in view of the new methods and the happy results of the Irish classes. The Irish college appears to start out under good auspices, well officered and strongly

## STOLEN GOLD.

Immense Sums Filched From the Kalgoorlie Field.

Special Cablegram to The Star. MELBOURNE, December 1.-The history of gold teems with instances of colossal frauds which have defied detection for years. Even the annals of mining, however, can boast of few instances so striking as that revealed during the past two or three months on the Kalgoorlie field in western Australia. A special commission was appointed in July to inquire into the alleged frauds. It has just finished its sittings. The evidence points to defalcations amounting to no less than \$1,500,000 or \$2,500,000 per annum. Moreover, it is clear that the system of fraud is not of recent inception; it has been in progress for many years. There is, indeed, reason to believe that the pec ations were even larger in the old days than they are now. The Kalgoorlie quartz was then far richer. There was little supervision, and a man could take his cribbilly home full of rich specimens with little fear of detection. In-stances are even known of miners taking \$200 and \$300 per week out of the mines right along. In those times it was a common thing for a miner to spend Sunday over his own private "dolly," separating the gold from the stolen quartz. It has now been proved that similar frauds have been going on until the present time. especially in all forms of s.in diseases, as this remedy."

At any rate, people who are tired of pills, cathurida and so-called blood "purifiers" will find in Stuart's Calcium Waters a far sarfer, more paralise and effective preparation.

Send your name and address today for a free composition of the last sitting of the commission and address today for a free composition of the strict package and see for yourself.

F. A. Stuart Co., 57 Stuart Bidg., Marshall,

Mich.

Where standardio is an anarrow escape to rect houses with one delids' father, it is my studied by a wounded by my child's father, it is mossible for me to bring own private "dolly" separating to the stolen quartz. It has been for of the building being let out in unfurnished and effective preparation.

Send your name and address today for a free trial package and see for yourself.

F. A. Stuart Co., 57 Stuart Bidg., Marshall,

Mich.

Where standardio is an anarrow escape to rect houses with one to the large of the total control to the stolen quartz. It has been for of a new edition of "The last sitting of the commission as served to the celling with the excepted with electric light and electric points turning vestering the building being let out in unfurnition or "The last proofs of a new edition of "The being of the commission as server, working of English novelists.

When interviewed she was looking over the building being let out in unfurnition or the building being let out in unfurnition or the building being let out in unfurnition or the building being let out in the build

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The Very Highest Grade Rain Coats made for men; silk lined. Until 10 o'clock Saturday

Coats, in gray, tan or black. Until 10 o'clock \$10.95 Saturday night.....

Ladies' \$9.50 Rain Coats, in the latest styles. \$2.73
Until 10 o'clock Saturday night...... Ladies' \$16.25 High-grade Rain Coats. Until \$5.25

Ladies' \$23.50 Cravenettes, in twenty different \$8.22 styles. Until 10 o'clock Saturday night...... 

The very highest grade of Ladies' Priestly Cravenettes. Until 10 o'clock Saturday night. \$12.20

Boys' and Girls' Rain Coats, with long cape; \$3.00 and \$4.00 values. Until 10 o'clock Saturday \$1.25

Men's \$25.00 and \$30.00 Paddock Rain Coats, \$9.00. \$35.00 and \$40.00 Ladies' Silk Rain Coats at \$11.50.

Men's Short Teamster Coats, former price \$4, \$1.00.

Men's Rubber Coats, \$5 and \$6 kind, for \$2.50

\$1.50.

sale price \$2 to

Boys' Rain Coats, former price \$4 to \$6.50, \$1.25.

Ladies' Cape Mackintoshes, former price \$8, sale price \$2 to 70c.

Girls' Rain Coats, made in finest styles, sale price \$2 to \$1.50.

Ladies' Rain Coats, male in newest style, former price \$14, sale \$5.25.

While You Wait

Special Correspondence of The Star.

LONDON, November 24, 1906. 44 AKE a girl and two men. Choose a locality. Slowly add other characters. Dictate about 7,000 words a day. In a fortnight you have a

complete novel." Something like the above is the avowed recipe of L. T. Meade, the immensely popular English authoress. Mrs. Meade laughs when one talks of the thinking out of a plot. "I seldom have one," she said to me yesterday, "and when I have one, I never stick to it. The inspiration that comes

Lisbeth Meade ought to know, for her

novels are certainly thrilling and their plots are uncommonly complex. Recently she published her 200th romance, which she called "The Blue Diamend," and she is now hard at work on her 201st, although I could not get so much as an inkling from her as to what it is about. Perhaps, however, seeone of a numerous and distinguished fambishop of Cork; her cousin is Admiral, the Earl of Clanwilliam, who twenty years ago commanded the North American fleet of

atives offered to get her a government billet and she deliberately chose one that brought her in the midst of books and musty documents and historic manuscripts. She lived by choice in one of the centuries-old structures in the heart of the ancient city— Bishopsgate Without—and studied the East End of London and its peoples.

In her spare time she scribbled away for dear life and attracted the attention of editors and publishers by her magazine and newspaper stories. Then came an offer of the editorship of Atalanta, the girls' magazine. For six years Miss Meade held this post and at the same time turned out sev-eral dozen books for girls. They were mostly of school life and proved intensely popular.

Then came her collaboration on a novel

its immediate success and the romance of her life. She married Dr. Toulmin Smith. No longer had she to be the slave of the market. She was able to spend all the time she wanted on the writing of her beloved books. Novel after novel appeared and then, when her son and two daughters be gan to grow up, the mother went back to her books for boys and girls, with here and there a novel, always an intensely dramatic work. One could scarce believe these were written by the same author of the many simple and charming girls' story

"The Brotherhood of the Seven Kings" is perhaps accounted her best novel. As to her books for girls, they are all popular. There is scarcely a house in Britain boast-ing of bookshelves and girls where the name of L. T. Meade is not to be seen. To the girls of the British empire, she is the queen of authors.

much-simply to read my morning's mail or to revise and correct my work. I dictate all my stories and novels to my ste-

nographer.
"I work regularly every weekday morn ing from 9:30 to 1 p.m.—three and a half hours altogether. I read my letters and dictate answers first of all. Then I revise the previous day's manuscript. Then I am ready to dictate. I do this walking round the room-sometimes standing at the win-dow or in front of a picture. I always like something to look at, although I have dictated while lying on a sofa with my eyes shut, when I have been ill.

"Walking about helps to bring ideas. Suppose I want a new story. I take a girl and two men. I hunt up names for these characters, generally from 'Who's Who' or a late, but that no manager has dared to folcity directory. I jot down a score of names on a slip of paper and mix them up. Next plete as an ordinary play, music that is I choose a locality-London, the country, France, Germany, whichever I happen to think will serve best. Now I am ready to rectly out of the dialogue, and last and best start dictating. Plot? No, decidedly no. I of all, plenty of real humor without a have no plot, and, as a rule, not the slight- funny man or any low comedy. If it sucest idea of what the story will be. I just make a beginning and as my stenographer takes her shorthand notes the story begins to unwind itself and grows by degrees. The incidents and local color come as inspirations from moment to moment. The plot unfolds itself quite easily. At 1 o'clock we stop. I have dictated perhaps 7,000 words. I cannot work slowly if I tried. I average 7,000 words a day during the three and a half hours. If a publisher is in a great hurry I can do 8,000, but I prefer not to as a rule.

"Sometimes, of course, editors and publishers ask for a plot and then I have to send them a skeleton, yet I cannot remember.

send them a skeleton, yet I cannot remember ever having kept to it when I have written the story. It's very much easier not to think of any plot, but let the book write itself. "Occasionally a publisher has asked for a novel in a hurry. On one occasion they wanted it within the week. I did it-80,-000 words-and really one of my most suc-

cessful stories. It was finished in heaps of time, but, of course, I had to work morning and night at it. And that's rather too hard work when one is growing old.' As a matter of fact, Mrs. Meade is forty, and as youthful-looking a matron as ever came out of the county of Cork. Her hair is sunny, her eyes blue, her pleasing features typically Irish.

FRENCH SERVANT PROBLEM. Big Syndicate Trying to Solve It in Apartment Houses.

CHARLES OGDENS

Special Cablegram to The Star. PARIS, December 1 .- Never in abeyance, coming more than ever to the front. It but the first resource of drawing-room con- | Sir Henry wouldn't consent; and conse- and wherever offensive customers had to versation. Where are we to find servants, quently Laurence Housman has written the | be ejected "Bill" was called and the busiargued that they are fewer in number than ever before and that the species is threatened with extinction. Forty years ago 1,311,471 women domestics served French families contentedly and well. Ten years later the latter were badly looked after by only 703.148 "bonnes," mostly grumblers At the present time there are barely 500,000 women servants in France, and the ladies are saying that they are worse than everthat two cannot do as much as a single servant in the old days.

servant in the old days.

A great commercial venture is even trying to arrange for the abolition of domestic servants, the male as well as the female. Builders, architects, landowners, financiers and the proprietors of a Paris daily are said to be interested in the scheme. The of southeast London. She goes in a great out in the arrangement of a few fate and of southeast London. She goes in a great deal for society and is a noted bridge player.

Despite this she is one of the hardest working of English novelists.

When interviewed she was looking over the last proofs of a new edition of "The Blue Diamond," in her comfortable library.

The walls were covered to the ceiling with

Special Correspondence of The Star. LONDON, November 14, 1906.

AVID BISPHAM'S experiment in light romantic opera-of which some of us caught a glimpse at the dress rehearsal yesterday-has much significance. If the enterprising American singer's production of "The Vicar of Wakefield" succeeds, it is likely to result in a big change in the future of opera, for it is along the throughout worthy of serious consideration, lyrics that in almost every case grow ofceeds, the public will at last have popular opera in English that fills part of the vast gap between grand opera and musical

"The Vicar of Wakefield" will not be ficially produced in London till December 12, and of course, detailed comment on this notable experiment must be postponed till them. Suffice it to say that .t the dress rehearsal it gave high promise, and that it will doubtless be much benefited by the preliminary provincial tour it is to make before its first night in London.

Bispham himself, of course, takes the role of the vicar, and is also his own manager. It was his own idea, and book and music were written on commission from him. There was a queer coincidence about the writing of the music. He decided that Liza Lehmann, whose "Persian Garden" he had sung all over the United State., was just the person to write the music, and he went up to her London flat to see her about it. This is the rest of the story, as Bispham told it to me yesterday:

"Before I got around to the subject of my call she suddenly exclaimed to me, 'David, I've got a great idea. I think I shall borrow Sir Henry Irving's version of "The Vicar of Wakefield," and set it to music. It is exactly suited to the purpose.' "'Yes,' said I, 'That is a good idea, and

here is the scheme for it,' and I pulled out of my pocket and gave to her the outline of the plan I had come to talk to her about. "Of course, after such an astonishing co-incidence as that, it would have seemed like flying in the face of Providence for us not to come to an agreement then and therer But we didn't use Sir Henry's version of Goldsmith's story-'Olivia," as it was called by the adapter, Wills-because book and the lyrics-with other lyrics bor-rowed from Goldsmith himself, Shakespeake and Herrick.

"I've had the plan in my head for two years, and shall doubtless produce the opera in America, but I wanted to bring it out here in its native setting, so to speak. first, before taking it to my own country, although I had several American offers for it last summer when I was there. Of course, if this experiment in light romantic opera succeeds, I shall produce a number of others-perhaps, for instance, Verdi's 'Falstaff,' which has never been done in

It is interesting to note that Housman who supplies the book and most of the lyrics, is the author of "An Englishwoman's Love Letters," which made such a sensa-tion when published anonymously some

### An Artificial Niagara. Special Cablegram to The Star.

resident, M. F. Roussel; M. Evain and M. Dousset, the engineers; M. Mahl, the originator of the scheme, and M. Lauriol. In English Opera A barrage 210 feet in height—that is, near-ly sixty feet higher than Niagara Falls will be built across the Rhone at Seyssel, while aerial cables will convey the electricity generated by the water power to Paris across France. The work will be the largest of its kind in Europe.

## FAMOUS "SILVER LAMBKIN."

Greatest Show Cat in the World is Dead.

Special Cablegram to The Star. LONDON, December 1.-The "Silver Lambkin," the celebrated chinchilla cat, bridgeshire. In every country where cats are bred his progeny holds a leading posimany sens won the gold medal at Boston. Born in 1889, this remarkable animal attained a great age as compared to most highly bred cats, and from the time he was three years old to the present time his descendants have won the Crystal Palace cup at every succeeding show.

In four years he raised the color to which he belonged from one or two unique speci-

mens to the most fashionable variety in the country. The ethereal loveliness of the chinchilla became sought after by fashionable ladies. Three hundred dollars, the highest price ever paid for a cat, was given for one of the "Silver Lambkin's" sons.
Princess Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein ranks chinchillas among her favorite pets and is patron of the Chinchilla Club, founded by the owner of the "Silver Lambkin," Mrs. Balding. This lady is considered the leading authority on cats, and holds the position of honorary life member of the

Cat Club, formerly occupied by the late Mr. Harrison Weir. The embalmed remains of the "Silver Lambkin" have been accepted by the Natural Museum. A model which appears upon the Cat Club silver challenge cups is in reality a portrait of this interesting ani-

### "Bill" Edwards a Woman. Special Cablegram to The Star.

BRISBANE, December 1 .- "William" Edwards, who for some years carried on business in Melbourne as a race horse trainer and latterly acted as "barman" in one or two hotels there, and subsequently filled the same position in other cities, was recently arrested on a Victorian warrant that the accused was a woman. She is of a sturdy, thick-set build, some five feet six inches in height and with a thoroughly masculine voice. She has been able to play her part well, for whenever

The proper name of the masquerader is Marion Edwards. She is unmarried, and she explains that her reason for failing to appear on the charge of burglary was that she dreaded being sent to jail, her chief anxiety being that her sex would be discov

## Foundling in a Stoup. Special Cablegram to The Star.

PARIS. December 1.-A strange discovery was made the other day by a lady in the Church of Notre Dame des Victoires. Before making the sign of the cross she dipped her fingers into the stoup, but with a start withdrew them hastily. She had touched the body of a baby girl only a few weeks old. The child began to cry loudly. The lady picked up the infant, and found pinned to her garments a note running as follows: "Abandoned by my child's father, it is